India (SIDBI) is seeking a credit of Euro 43 million as part of its plan to increase credit flow to Small Scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how much credit is proposed to be given to North-Eastern Region as part of SIDBI's credit flow to Small Scale industries, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As a part of the Project on Financing & Development of SMEs, SIDBI is in dialogue with Kfw, Germany for a line of credit of Euro 43.5 million.

(c) The line of credit has so far not been broken up into state-wise components.

Release of grants under Eleventh Finance Commission

2929. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request for release of final installment of Rs. 78.82 crores under the Eleventh Finance Commission grants for the period 2004-05 was submitted by the State Government of Karnataka;

(b) what is the present status of consideration of the request; and

(c) by when the funds are expected to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Eleventh Finance Commission Award period was over on 31.3.2005 and no further grants can be released for the purpose to Government of Karnataka. In this regard, the State Government has already been informed by Ministry of Finance.

Low spending on National Highways

2930 SHRI DEVDASAPTE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that spending on National Highways is less than 1 per cent of the country's GDP; and